

Chronicle

In order to commemorate the memory of Late Padma Shri (Mrs) SAVITRI SAHNI, the "Savitri Sahni Smarak Lecture Series" was organized on the occasion of her birthday on the 19th September, 1990 at Banquet Hall, Hotel Clarks Avadh, Lucknow at 4.30 PM. The inaugural ceremony and the programme was organized by dr. SHYAM C. SRIVASTAVA Secretary of the Birbal-Savitri Sahni Foundation, with the assistance of Mrs MADHU SRIVASTAVA.

His Excellency B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY, Rajyapal Uttar Pradesh, has very graciously consented to be the Chief Guest.

Programme

4.30 PM Reception

Vandana

Welcome to the Chief Guest by Secretary

Address by His Excellency B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY,
Governor of Uttar Pradesh

Address by Chairperson

Thanks by the Associate Secretary, Birbal Savitri

Sahni Foundation

5.15 PM Coffee

5.30 PM Lecture I: Dr. B.S. VENKATACHALA, Director, Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow.

Title: "The Past of the Green World".

6.00 PM Lecture II: Prof. M. KEDVES, J.A. University, Hungary

Title: "Aspects and Prospects in Palaeobotany".

6.30 PM Lecture III: Dr. JOHN RIGBY, Queensland Geological Survey, Australia.

Title: „Glossopteris an Enigma”.

In connection with this we publish the following.

Excerpts

from the "Will" of Late (Mrs.) SAVITRI SAHNI (1902—1985)

"It is my desire that in taken of my love and devotion to that fine and great spirit of my noble husband Late Professor BIRBAL SAHNI and in the pride of my illustrious husband's unique lofty ideals, a portion of my Ashes be strewn in the flower-beds around his "Samadhi" at the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow.

To my Palaeobotanist colleagues the world over whom I hold in very high regard and affection, I offer my deep gratitude for their cooperation in the cause of science and towards fulfilment of our ideal, which has been a source of great encouragement to me. I express for them my unbounding affection and my all blessings follow them ever. I realise what great it is in life to have been given the great gift of receiving such unstinted affection from all over the Palaeobotanical world and I am beholden to them".



Photograph 1

His Excellency B. SATYANARAN REDDY Governor of Uttar Pradesh during his address.
Lecturers sitting in the front row (from left to right): DR. B.S. VENKATACHALA Director, DR. JOHN RIGBY and Prof. M. KEDVES.



Photograph 2

DR. B.S. VENKATACHALA Director, Prof. M. KEDVES and DR. SHYAM C. SRIVASTAVA Secretary of the Birbal-Savitri Foundation at the presidential desk.
Photographs from the courtesy of DR. SHYAM C. SRIVASTAVA.

With such noble feelings, the Late Padamshri (Mrs.) SAVITRI SAHNI founded Birbal-Savitri Sahni Foundation with the following programmes:

1. International Research Collaborative Programmes for exchange of Scientists between the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow and Palaeobotanical organization abroad; would be known as "Birbal-Savitri Sahni Collaborative Research Programme".
2. Birbal-Savitri International Fellowships would be awarded to young Palaeobotanists/Earth Scientists for carrying out research in any specialised branch of palaeobotany in India.
3. Birbal-Savitri Sahni International Awards would be given alternative years to an outstanding scientist excelling in Palaeobotanical and allied fields which would carry cash prize of Rupees 25,000/— and a plaque in gold-silver. Nominations for such award may be forwarded to the Foundation between 10th and 26th April every year.
4. "Savitri Sahni Samman" founded by friends and admirers of Late (Mrs.) SAVITRI SAHNI for her dedication to the cause of Palaeobotany, would carry cash prize of Rupees 10,000/— including a medal which is to be given annually on 22nd January to a Palaeobotanist for outstanding research work.
5. "Savitri Sahni Smarak Lecture" instituted with cost donations from well wishers of Late (Mrs.) SAVITRI SAHNI carries token honorarium of Rs. 5,000/— for an invited lecture every year on 19th September in any specialised field of Palaeobotany. The Lecture would be published as monograph under the auspices of the Birbal-Savitri Sahni Foundation. These programmes are meant to promote palaeobotanical and allied sciences the world over, for which Late (Mrs.) SAVITRI SAHNI donated every bit of her belongings to the Nation and entrusted to Birbal-Savitri Sahni Foundation. The entire residence of SAHNI's situated at the banks of river Gompti is planned to be converted into Museum-cum-Guest House and a "Palaeograden" is also being planned to develop at the site where her last remains were consigned to flames.



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